

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 16th, 2006

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Science, State
Justice and Commerce and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Alan B. Mollohan
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
Subcommittee on Science, State
Justice and Commerce and Related Agencies
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Wolf and Ranking Member Mollohan:

We are writing to request level funding -- \$106 million -- for the Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP) program in the fiscal year 2007 Science, State, Justice, and Commerce Appropriations bill. This funding is necessary to ensure the sustainability of our domestic small manufacturing industry and its high-quality jobs.

MEP assists America's small manufacturers and helps boost productivity, sales, investment in modernization, and employment. Manufacturing was a significant contributor to the economy's expansion in the 1990s, and small manufacturers are the engines that increase productivity and job growth. Small manufacturers employ over 11 million Americans and account for approximately 55 percent of the value of all manufactured goods in the American economy.

MEP is one of the most successful federal/state partnerships in government. MEP clients achieve productivity gains that are more than four times greater than comparable firms that do not receive MEP assistance. Furthermore, MEP clients are increasing sales, hiring workers, and investing in plant modernization. In fiscal year 2004, MEP clients reported 43,624 new or retained workers, sales of \$4.532 billion, cost savings of \$721 million, and plant and equipment investments of \$941 million. These results are a direct consequence of clients' MEP assistance.

A \$106 million appropriation for MEP in fiscal year 2007 is critical to the sustainability of our domestic manufacturing sector. Approximately 350,000 small manufacturers account for over half the total value of U.S. production and represent 98.6 percent of all manufacturing establishments. They employ more than 11 million people and account for two-thirds of all U.S. manufacturing employment. These jobs are high-skilled and high-wage, with manufacturing employees earning 50 percent more than retail employees per hour.

Manufacturing is one of our country's greatest economic strengths and MEP is an invaluable program that helps manufacturers improve productivity and compete in the global marketplace. Without strong federal support, MEP will be unable to maintain its mission of serving America's small manufacturers. At a time when economic recovery, supply chain

reliability for consumer and defense goods, and global competitiveness are national priorities, we believe MEP continues to be a wise investment. We respectfully request that you appropriate \$106 million for MEP in fiscal year 2007.

Sincerely,

Ed L. Smith

Shirley Bachert

Vernon Ehlert

Bob Sauer

Benny Frank

Richard Schaal

Regis R. Owens

Jim Wingell

Arnold Nadler

Brad D. Lucas

Walt Miller

Mike Doyle

Bart Gordon

Rosa L. DeLauro

Chet Edwards

Jonah Levitt

Deis O. Matsui

Sherr Brown

John H. Hodge

Bart Stupak

Daniel Lipinski

Peter Fitz

W. C. C.

Fred Martin

Wm. J. Jefferson

Donald W. Pangle

Michael R. McMurtry

W. J. Barker

Charles F. Bass

James B.

Michael D. DePate

W. J. Barker

Paul E. Childs

David L. Rice

Ernest L. Enge

Rick Boucher

W. J. Barker

Zane Evans

J. Saxton

W. J. Barker

W. J. Barker

John Spratt

R. J. R.

Michael E. Capron

John Gay

Bob Burt

Melba M. Vetr

Joseph Stanley

Robert J. Lynch

Robert W. H.

Chad / Dwyer

Joe Brown

Jim Oberstar

Howard D. Olson

Jo Ann Emerson

Lois Capron

Spencer T. Bachus III

Melissa L. Bean

Keri Christ

Mike McIntyre

Charles A. Fry

Jeff Loff

Christopher

Joe Wilson

Jim Moran

Tom Lantos

Jerry Moran

Mr V. Lukens

Jim Walsh

Mike Bilirakis

Darlene Hooley

Patricia

Earl Blumenfeld

Tom Peter

Bill Paschall, Jr.

Solomon P. Gotsis

L. Holder

Harold Cohen

Jed Strickland

Chris Smith

Lechos Paulo

Bobby Lush

Philip Jackson Lee

Connie Brown

Bill DeLoach

Ruben Hernandez

Louise M. Slaughter

Jane Harman

John Long Jr.

William D. Lindsey

Jim Whitell

Jim Parnstead
Judy Wall

James Langerwin

John Smith

Joe Schumacher MD.

Hyl D Oggett

~~nm~~ Shoo

~~Smith~~

~~Smith~~ Smith

John A. Smith

Keith Smith

Maureen

Carolyn McCarthy

Rick Larson

John F. Timony

Liane E. Watson

Neil Rogers MI-08

Ron Paul

Rob A Brady

Wick Ferguson

Tim Ryan

John Smith

Sam Cole

Pete Seeger

Thom in (ryls)

Mike Rame

Tom Beal

Frank Pallone, Jr.

Allyson J. Schwartz

Michael H. Mink

Bob Bering

Mike Regan - AL

Tom Orlome

Ed Whitford

John B. Rame

Zanny Balchri

Bob Shiff

Charlie Warner

Jim Davis

Walter B. Jones

Tom Henni

Shelley Berkley

Carl G. Galt

Joe Shea

Jim Korman

Jim Ritt

Rud Holt

David Wu

Melissa A. Hart

Todd P. Platte

Jim McDermott

Barbara Aclim

Bill Shuster

Jim Natta

Scott Barnett

Bobby Scott

Leonard L. Bunn

Ron Kind

Mrs Van Hollen

Virgil Hooper

Jack Schick
Ellen Tauscher
Tom Allen

Mike Castle

Ray Trimm
Kathleen Emanuel

Wanda

Phil Thompson

Raul M. Higuera

Tom Clark

Jim DeStefano
Tom Fox

Eddie Bruce Johnson
Randy Kuhl

Dennis J. Kucinski
Hilda L. Solis

Bob Williams
Dana J. Moore

Charlie Womack

James H. Williams Jr.

Carolyn B. Maloney
George Miller

Tommy H. H. H.

Henry E. Brown Jr.

Edward J. McCallister

Richard J. McCallister

Barbara Lee

Michael W. Womack

Norma Dicks

Martin Olav Eide

Louise Royal-Allard

Pete Hackett

Henry T. Costello

Brady J. Lee

Laura Davis

Diary

John

Tim Murphy

Joe Myrick

Sam Camp

Jo Ann Davis

Melvin L. Watt

J. McEug

Billy McCollum

Dan Scott

Paul Baker

Red Bob

John Lewis

John Lewis

Caroline S. Miller

Robin Hayes

Jan Boren

Mike

James E. Chrysler

Don Young

Jeff Davis

Jo Bonner

Stephanie Kerseth

John

Edward J. Markey

Tony Z.

Donald A. Marzullo

M. Davis

John T. Delaney

John J. P. P.

Sam Lane

Guss Amato

Jim Linder

Alme

Julia Carson

1. Allen, Tom
2. Andrews, Robert
3. Baca, Joe
4. Baird, Brian
5. Baker, Richard
6. Baldwin, Tammy
7. Barrett, Gresham
8. Bass, Charles
9. Bauchus, Spencer
10. Bean, Melissa
11. Beauprez, Bob
12. Becerra, Xavier
13. Berkley, Shelley
14. Bilirakis, Michael
15. Bishop, Rob
16. Bishop, Timothy
17. Blumenauer, Earl
18. Boehlert, Sherwood
19. Bonner, Jo
20. Boren, Dan
21. Boswell, Leonard
22. Boucher, Rick
23. Brady, Robert
24. Brown, Corrine
25. Brown, Henry
26. Brown, Sherrod
27. Burgess, Michael
28. Calvert, Ken
29. Camp, Dave
30. Cannon, Chris
31. Caps, Lois
32. Capuano, Michael
33. Cardoza, Dennis
34. Carnahan, Russ
35. Carson, Julia
36. Castle, Michael
37. Cleaver, Emanuel
38. Clyburn, James
39. Coble, Howard
40. Cole, Tom
41. Conyers, John
42. Costa, Jim
43. Costello, Jerry
44. Crowley, Joseph
45. Cubin, Barbara
46. Davis, Geoff

47. Davis, Jim
48. Davis, Jo Ann
49. Davis, Susan
50. Davis, Tom
51. DeFazio, Peter
52. DeGette, Diana
53. Delahunt, William
54. DeLauro, Rosa
55. Dent, Charles
56. Dicks, Norman
57. Dingell, John
58. Doggett, Lloyd
59. Doyle, Michael
60. Drier, David
61. Edwards, Chet
62. Ehlers, Vernon
63. Emanuel, Rahm
64. Emerson, Jo Ann
65. Engel, Eliot
66. English, Phil
67. Eshoo, Anna
68. Evans, Lane
69. Farr, Sam
70. Ferguson, Mike
71. Fitzpatrick, Michael
72. Fortuno, Luis
73. Frank, Barney
74. Garrett, Scott
75. Gerlach, Jim
76. Gingrey, Phil
77. Gonzalez, Charles
78. Goode, Virgil
79. Gordon, Bart
80. Graves, Sam
81. Green, Al
82. Green, Mark
83. Grijalva, Raul
84. Gutierrez, Luis
85. Harman, Jane
86. Hart, Melissa
87. Hayes, Robin
88. Herseth, Stephanie
89. Higgins, Brian
90. Hinchey, Maurice
91. Hinojosa, Ruben
92. Hoekstra, Peter

93. Holden, Tim
94. Holt, Rush
95. Honda, Michael
96. Hooley, Darlene
97. Hoyer, Steny
98. Hulshof, Kenny
99. Inslee, Jay
100. Issa, Darrell
101. Jackson-Lee, Sheila
102. Jefferson, William
103. Johnson, Eddie Bernice
104. Johnson, Timothy
105. Jones, Walter
106. Kildee, Dale
107. Kind, Ron
108. King, Peter
109. Kucinich, Dennis
110. Kuhl, Randy
111. Langevin, James
112. Lantos, Tom
113. Larsen, Rick
114. Larson, John
115. LaTourette, Steven
116. Lee, Barbara
117. Levin, Sander
118. Lewis, John
119. Lipinski, Daniel
120. LoBiondo, Frank
121. Lofgren, Zoe
122. Lucas, Frank
123. Lynch, Stephen
124. Maloney, Carolyn
125. Manzullo, Donald
126. Markey, Edward
127. Marshall, Jim
128. Matheson, Jim
129. Matsui, Doris
130. McCarthy, Carolyn
131. McCollum, Betty
132. McCotter, Thaddeus
133. McCrery, Jim
134. McDermott, Jim
135. McGovern, James
136. McHugh, John
137. McIntyre, Mike
138. McKeon, Howard "Buck"

139. McNulty, Michael
140. Meehan, Martin
141. Melancon, Charlie
142. Michaud, Michael
143. Millender-McDonald, Juanita
144. Miller, Brad
145. Miller, Candice
146. Miller, George
147. Moore, Dennis
148. Moore, Gwen
149. Moran, James
150. Moran, Jerry
151. Murphy, Tim
152. Myrick, Sue
153. Nadler, Jerrold
154. Neal, Richard
155. Norwood, Charlie
156. Oberstar, James
157. Ortiz, Solomon
158. Osborne, Tom
159. Otter, Butch
160. Owens, Major
161. Pallone, Frank
162. Pascrell, Bill
163. Paul, Ron
164. Payne, Donald
165. Peterson, Collin
166. Petri, Thomas
167. Platts, Todd
168. Pombo, Richard
169. Price, David
170. Ramstad, Jim
171. Renzi, Rick
172. Reynolds, Thomas
173. Rogers, Mike (AL)
174. Rogers, Mike (MI)
175. Ross, Mike
176. Rybal-Allard, Lucille
177. Rush, Bobby
178. Ryan, Tim
179. Sabo, Martin
180. Salazar, John
181. Sanchez, Linda
182. Sanders, Bernie
183. Saxton, Jim
184. Schakowsky, Jan

- 185. Schiff, Adam
- 186. Schwartz, Allyson
- 187. Schwarz, Joe
- 188. Scott, Robert
- 189. Scott, David
- 190. Sherman, Brad
- 191. Shimkus, John
- 192. Shuster, Bill
- 193. Simmons, Rob
- 194. Skelton, Ike
- 195. Slaughter, Louise
- 196. Smith, Adam
- 197. Smith, Chris
- 198. Snyder, Vic
- 199. Solis, Hilda
- 200. Souder, Mark
- 201. Spratt, John
- 202. Stark, Pete
- 203. Strickland, Ted
- 204. Stupak, Bart
- 205. Sullivan, John
- 206. Tanner, John
- 207. Tauscher, Ellen
- 208. Tierney, John
- 209. Udall, Mark
- 210. Udall, Tom
- 211. Upton, Fred
- 212. Van Hollen, Chris
- 213. Velazquez, Nydia
- 214. Walsh, James
- 215. Watson, Diane
- 216. Watt, Melvin
- 217. Weiner, Anthony
- 218. Weller, Jerry
- 219. Wexler, Robert
- 220. Whitfield, Ed
- 221. Wilson, Joe
- 222. Wu, David
- 223. Young, Don